

House Resolution No. 3679

Whereas, the members of the Missouri House of Representatives hold in high esteem those Show-Me State spiritual institutions which have proven to be exemplary components of local communities and neighborhoods; and

Whereas, Bellefontaine United Methodist Church can trace its history to 1805 when neighbors and friends met in homes of the community to study the Bible, worship God, and follow the teachings of John Wesley, founder of Methodism; and

Whereas, in 1855 the first church building was completed on six acres of land deeded by James and Anna Bissell to church trustees in 1853; and

Whereas, named Bellefontaine Methodist Episcopal Church South, the still-extant building is now known as Chapel Hall; and

Whereas, just in time for the church's sesquicentennial anniversary, Bellefontaine United Methodist Church opened the Paul O. Whittle Education Building in 1955 to serve a growing congregation; and

Whereas, in 1964 Bellefontaine United Methodist Church build a new sanctuary, parlor, and offices, followed in 1990 by the beautiful Atrium (Fellowship Center), a three-story elevator, and renovations to Chapel Hall; and

Whereas, universally praised as the first protestant church west of the Mississippi River, Bellefontaine United Methodist Church has held a series of special commemorative events during the past year to celebrate the Two Hundredth Anniversary of its founding; and

Whereas, on Sunday, June 12, 2005, the staff and members of Bellefontaine United Methodist Church will observe Bellefontaine United Methodist Church Day in their hometown of Bellefontaine Neighbors, Missouri:

Now, therefore, be it resolved that we, the members of the Missouri House of Representatives, Ninety-third General Assembly, join unanimously to applaud the long history of spiritual service garnered down through the years by Bellefontaine United Methodist Church and to convey to all of those involved this legislative body's most heartfelt best wishes as they celebrate the Bicentennial Anniversary of their institution's establishment; and

Be it further resolved that the Chief Clerk of the Missouri House of Representatives be instructed to prepare a properly inscribed copy of this resolution in honor of Bellefontaine United Methodist Church.

Offered by _____
Representative Gina Walsh
District No. 69

I, Rod Jetton, Speaker of the House of Representatives,
Ninety-third General Assembly, First Regular Session, do
certify that the above is a true and correct copy of House
Resolution No. 3679, adopted June 8, 2005.

Rod Jetton, Speaker